

SECOND REQUEST INTERNAL APPEAL PROCEDURE

(Revised June 2001)

A. Appeals Regarding Modifications

If the recipient of a second request from the Department of Justice believes that the request is unreasonably cumulative, unduly burdensome, or duplicative and, after exhausting reasonable efforts, has been unable to reach agreement with the section chief regarding a modification, the recipient may appeal the matter to a Deputy Assistant Attorney General, who does not have direct responsibility for the review of any enforcement recommendation concerning the transaction at issue (the "Reviewer"). The appeal shall be in writing, no longer than ten (10) pages double spaced, and shall include:

- (1) A concise explanation of the reasons why the recipient believes that compliance would be unduly burdensome, including a summary of compliance discussions at the staff and section chief level; and
- (2) the modifications that the recipient proposes.

All appeals should be sent to the Office of Operations (Attn: Second Request Appeals), which will immediately forward the request to the appropriate Deputy Assistant Attorney General. Upon receipt of a written appeal, the Reviewer may request additional information from or a telephone conference with the recipient within two (2) business days. The Reviewer will render a decision on the appeal within seven (7) days after the recipient has provided all necessary information.

An appeal must be made prior to assertion of compliance by the recipient, and the recipient must agree to defer asserting compliance until after the appeal process has been completed or the recipient has withdrawn its appeal.

B. Appeals Regarding Substantial Compliance

If the recipient of a second request has certified that it is in substantial compliance with the request and, after exhausting reasonable efforts, has been unable to reach agreement with the section chief regarding compliance, the recipient, after receiving the deficiencies believed to exist from the section chief, may appeal the matter to a Deputy Assistant Attorney General, who does not have direct responsibility for the review of any enforcement recommendation concerning the transaction at issue (the “Reviewer”). The appeal shall be in writing, no longer than ten (10) pages double spaced, and shall include a concise explanation of the reasons why the recipient believes that it is in compliance, including a summary of compliance discussions at the staff and section chief level.

All appeals should be sent to the Office of Operations (Attn: Second Request Appeals), which will immediately forward the request to the appropriate Deputy Assistant Attorney General. Upon receipt of a written appeal, the Reviewer may request additional information from or a telephone conference with the recipient within two (2) business days. The Reviewer will render a decision on the appeal within three (3) business days after the recipient has provided all necessary information.

If the Reviewer determines that the recipient is in substantial compliance, the date of certification of substantial compliance will be the date on which the waiting period is determined to have begun. If the Reviewer determines that the recipient is not in substantial compliance, the Reviewer will recommend that a formal deficiency letter be issued.